Ko-dai

1

THE GEEK EX-HITMAN

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The Geek Ex-Hitman

CONTENTS

#01
003

#02
019

#03
031

#04
041

#05
061

#06
079

#07
095

#08
111

#09
127

#10
145

#11
163

Afterword
183

#01

THE MAN WAS ONCE A PLAYER IN THIS PEACEFUL AND AFFLUENT CITY'S UNDER-WORLD.

FLORENCE, ITALY

...AND ALL THAT'S LEFT IN HIS WAKE IS A PILE OF CORPSES.

NONE HAVE LAID EYES ON HIM...

NOT A SINGLE SOUL IN HIS LINE OF WORK IS IGNORANT OF HIS LEGENDARY KILLING PROWESS.

THEY CALL HIM "THE ORACLE OF FLORENCE," OR "T.O."

HIS NAME IS MARCO.

...THERE WAS NO HIT HE COULDN'T HANDLE.

SOAKED IN BLOOD AND REEKING OF DEATH...

YET ONE DAY, THE ORACLE OF FLORENCE SUDDENLY VANISHED.

JAPAN

ONE MONTH LATER

SU (SHF)

SHUBO (CLICK)

GATA (CLATTER)

IT'S THE *HADES GIRL EURYDICE* FIFTH ANNIVERSARY EVENT, "THE BITTERSWEET SIGNAL ☆ LINKING US TO THE NETHERWORLD," AT THE SUPER ARENA!

PHEW...

#01

...THE TICKET LOTTERY ...?

I LOST...

...I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.

PYON (JUMP)

PIKU (TWITCH)

BUT WHY...?

UP UNTIL NOW, I'VE NEVER FAILED A SINGLE MISSION.

I WAS QUICK...

...SILENT...

...LOYAL...

BIKU (FLINCH)

...AND DETERMINED.

KOTSU

KOTSU (STEP)

SU (REACH)

BUT THEN, IT HIT ME LIKE A TRUCK.

SHE'S SO CUTE ...!!!

WHERE'D YOU GET THIS?

...

IN JAPAN ...

Fantastico Giappone!!

SUTA
SUTA
SUTA
SUTA
SUTA
SUTA (TMD)

WITH THAT IN MIND, I DECIDED TO CANCEL ALL MY HITS.

...I HAD A GOAL TO PURSUE ...

DRIVEN BY A NEW SENSE OF PURPOSE...

NOW I'M THE ONE WITH A PRICE ON MY HEAD.

...AND NOW, WELL...

ZAPAA (SPLASH)

UNFAZED, I SET OUT FOR JAPAN...

CHIIN (CHIING)

PIRORIN (CHIME)

1 NEW EMAIL

...AH.

GABA (RISE)

WAIT...

NAKA-MURA-SHI!

BA (JUMP)

MAYBE HE GOT BACK TO ME ABOUT THE EXTRA TICKET!

IF HE'S GOT ONE...

...MAYBE I CAN ASK HIM FOR IT!

KACHI (CLICK)

Managed to snag 1! >o< Made it in by a hair!!!

N

CHIIN (CHIING)

PIRORIN (CHIME)

1 NEW EMAIL

.....

GABA (RISE)

47

MUKU (STAND)

OH YEAH, I ASKED SHINOHARA-SHI TOO...

.....

TOSU (THUNK)

...BUT I GUESS I GOTTA REPLY ANYWAY...

I DOUBT HE'S GOT ANY EXTRA TICKETS...

FURA

FURA

FURA (SWAY)

KASHI (CLICK)

The gods smile upon us!!!!!!
I got 2 tickets!!
I'll give you 1!!!

Fantastico Giappone!!

BIKU

BIKU (FLINCH)

FLORENCE, ITALY

<...WHAT DID YOU SAY?>

<SO HE'S IN JAPAN NOW...>

<BUT WHY?>

PURU

PURU (QUIVER)

プル プル

<HE DITCHED US FOR THIS..?>

<C-CAPO...>

<TH-THIS IS WHY, SIR.>

SU (SLIDE)

DAN (SLAM)

BUCHI! (SNAP)

MARCO, THE ORACLE OF FLORENCE ...

<BRING HIM BACK HERE!>

THIS LEGENDARY HITMAN'S NEW OTAKU LIFESTYLE HAS ONLY JUST BEGUN.

[END]

#02

WHENEVER HE CARRIED OUT A HIT, HE PAID HIS TARGETS THE UTMOST RESPECT...

THE ORACLE OF PUNISHMENT

THE MAN'S NAME IS MARCO AND HIS ALIAS IS

BEING A GENTLEMAN WAS A TOKEN OF GOOD FAITH TOWARD THE LIFE HE TOOK.

NO MATTER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES OR ENVIRONMENT HE FOUND HIMSELF IN.

SO WEARING THIS OUTFIT IS NO DISTANCE

PACHIN (CLICK)

THESE CLOTHES ARE NOW AN EXTENSION OF HIS BEING

WHOOO...

YAMAHI

#02

...PROOF HE'S GOING ALL OUT.

THE SET LIST WAS PERFECT!

THAT CONCERT WAS AWESOME!

THE SWELL OF ENERGY IN THE LATTER HALF REALLY MADE IT A PERFORMANCE TO REMEMBER.

I'M SO IMPRESSED!!

AND THE ADMIN STAFF KNEW HOW TO HANDLE EVERYTHING TOO.

AND EU-TASO'S PERFORMANCE WAS FLAWLESS!

THAT ARRANGEMENT OF THE SONGS WAS SUPER-COOL AND DIFFERENT FROM THE MVs!!

SHINOHARA-SHI

NAKAMURA-SHI

AH.

AH-HA-HA

HA-HA!

IT WASN'T HARD TO NOTICE! I LISTENED TO THE SONGS A MILLION TIMES!

I KNEW YOU'D PICK UP ON HOW SUPERB THAT ARRANGEMENT WAS TOO!

EXPECTED NO LESS OF YOU, MARCO-SHI!

LONG TIME NO SEE!

ITAKURA-SHI!

NAKAMURA-SHI! SHINOHARA-SHI!

SHIRT: MOE

BY THE WAY...

PLUS, THE CONCERT WAS SO INTENSE! I CAN'T THINK OF A SINGLE FLAW!!

THE WIN RATIO FOR TICKETS WAS THE MOST COMPETITIVE IT'S EVER BEEN TOO!

I'M SURE IT'LL BE TALKED ABOUT FOR DECADES TO COME.

SO YOU MADE IT TO THE CONCERT TOO!

LH-HUH. I MANAGED TO LAND A TICKET!

Nº 71

PEKORI (BOW)

HELLO. MY NAME IS MARCO.

IT'S A PLEASURE TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAIN-TANCE

"

OH! I FORGOT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME YOU'RE MEETING HIM.

... WHO'S THE PERSON WITH YOU?

THIS IS MARCO-SHI. HE'S A FELLOW COMRADE FROM ITALY.

HUUUH!?

?

...HE WAS APPARENTLY A FAMED TOP OTAKU IN FLORENCE.

INCIDENTALLY...

GA (CLASP)

HELLO! MY NAME IS ITAKURA!

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR VENTURING PAST NATIONAL BORDERS AND TREASURING THE OTAKU CULTURE OF FAR-OFF JAPAN!

IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU!

IT'S AMAZING HOW THE WORD "OTAKU" HAS SPREAD ALL THE WAY TO MY NATIVE ITALY!

OH, IT'S NOTHING.

I'M TRULY HONORED TO BE ABLE TO LEARN SO MUCH FROM MY KIND SENPAIS.

AND AS WE'RE FANS OF THE SAME CHARACTER ...

...OF JAPANESE OTAKUS!

I RESPECT THE PASSION ...

PAAAAAAAA (SHHHHNE)

...LET'S BE BUDS!

YO, LOOK OVER THERE.

HEE HEE.

TAME AS HELL!

C'MON, LET'S MOVE.

WHAT SAY WE CALL IT A DAY?

BOY, WE'VE BEEN CHATTING FOR HOURS.

SORRY TO ASK YOU OUTTA THE BLUE...

JARI (STEP)

'SUP...

...LOSER OTAKUS!

YO!

...BUT WE JUST DON'T GOT THE SCRATCH.

WE'RE PLANNIN' ON GRABBIN' US SOME LADIES TONIGHT...

MIND LENDIN' US SOME CASH?

HEH HEH HEH!

...BUT WE'RE IN A BIT OF A BIND.

SO TURN OUT YOUR POCKETS.

IF YA DON'T WANT ANYTHIN' BAD TO HAPPEN TO YA...

ZA (STEP)

YOU GOT A DEATH WISH, DIPSHIT?

...HUH?

SHUT UP! YOU'RE DEAD!!

TCH!

BOK! (CRUNCH)

BESIDES ...

SORRY, BUT I DON'T THINK THAT'S THE ATTITUDE YOU SHOULD TAKE WHEN ASKING A FAVOR.

...YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO KILL SOMEONE.

GYUK! (SNAP)

BA (PULL)

PASH! (BLOCK)

SO I WON'T TAKE IT ANY FURTHER THAN THIS. THAT SAID...

I'M *RETIRED*, YOU KNOW.

ARGH!

OW...

YOU'RE GONNA BREAK IT...!!

GUI (TWIST)

ZOK-n-n-n (SHUDDER)

Non infastidirmi.

<DON'T IRRITATE ME.>

...BUT EVEN SO...

I DUNNO WHAT THIS GUY JUST SAID...

WHY, YOU MAY ASK?

YOU SHOULD TAKE MORE PRIDE IN YOUR COUNTRY'S OTAKU CULTURE

LISTEN UP, MY DELINQUENT FRIENDS.

...HE'S FREAKING TERRIFYING ...!!!

BECAUSE IT'S OTAKUS WHO KEEP JAPAN'S ECONOMY GOING!!!

BAAAN (BAM)

.....

RAISE YOUR ARMS UP HIGHER!

AND GET THOSE WAISTS LOWER!

THERE!

ZUZAAA (SKID)

THE TOP OTAKU OF FLORENCE FOR YOU!

THAT'S "T.O."—

*THEY HAD YET TO REALIZE THEY WERE MISINTERPRETING THOSE INITIALS.

[END]

#03

PINPOOON
(DING-DONG)

GACHA
(CHK)

I...

I HAVE YOUR DELIVERY!

SEGAWA

I MUST HAVE CAUSED YOU GREAT INCON-VENIEN—

GIII
(CREAK)

ALLOW ME TO APOLOGIZE FOR MY TARDI-NESS!!

AHH!!

AHH...

SHIT...

IT ALL STARTED A FEW HOURS PRIOR.

GUESS I'LL GIVE THE GUY A CALL.

AT THIS RATE, I WON'T MAKE IT THERE BY DELIVERY TIME.

THIS TRAFFIC AIN'T GOING ANYWHERE.

I'M SORRY?

DUE TO TRAFFIC CONDITIONS, IT SEEMS I'LL BE A BIT LATE ...

HELLO. I'M WITH SEGAWA DELIVERY SERVICES.

AH.

...They okay?

RRRRRR

GACHA (CLICK)

"MARCO" ...

GUESS HE'S FOREIGN, HUH?

WHAT'LL I DO IF HE DOESN'T SPEAK JAPANESE?

SEGAWA

THE GOODS. ARE THEY OKAY?

Talk !!

Are they okay or not!?

...HUH? THE GOODS ...?

Got it...I'm relieved to hear that.

THERE'S NO PROBLEM WITH... "THE GOODS"...

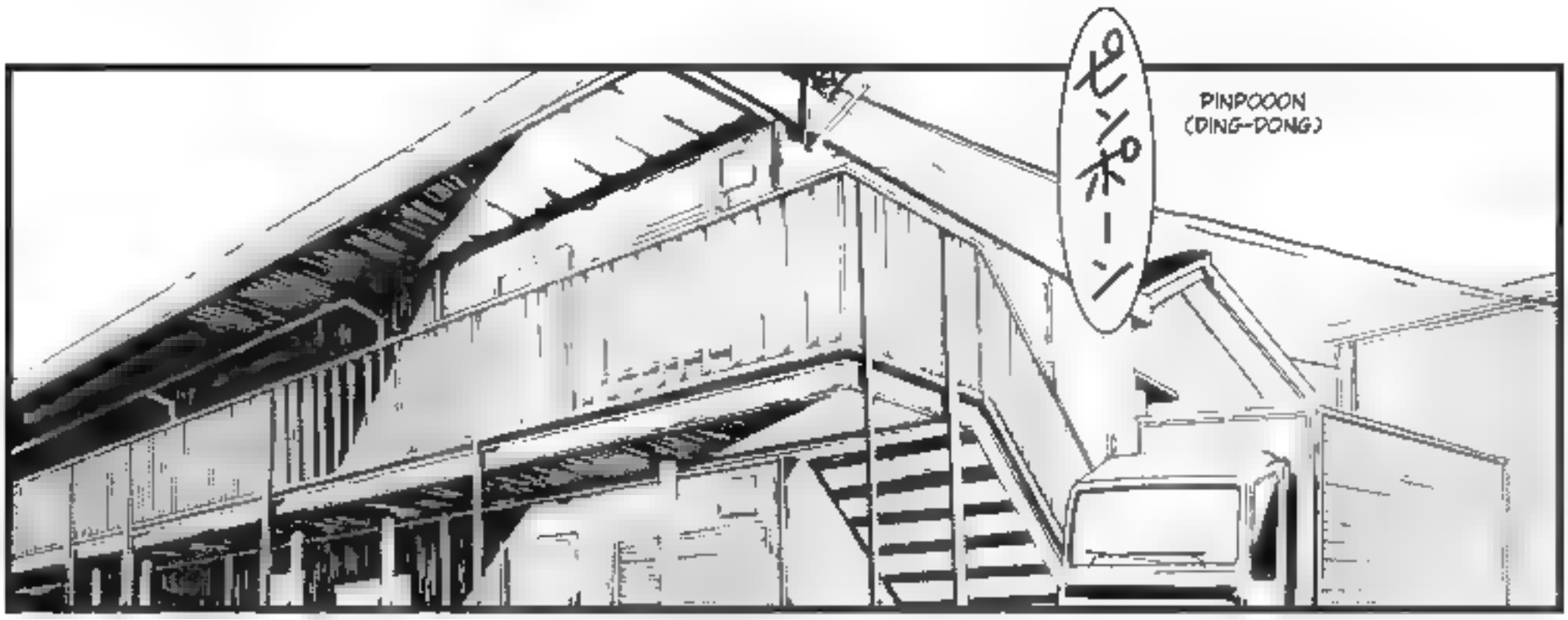
Y-YES, SIR!!!

BY "THE GOODS"... DOES HE MEAN... DRUGS...?

I...I UNDERSTAND, SIR...I'LL BE DISCREET...

GET THE BOX TO MY DOOR DISCREETLY. I'D RATHER NO ONE NOTICED.

AM I... AM I A MULE RIGHT NOW...?



A...

A SCARY GUY REALLY IS AT THIS ADDRESS ...!!

DOSA (THUD)

YES/?

YO.

PI (FWIP)

DON'T RAISE A FUSS.

EEEEK! I'M SORRY! I'M SORRY!

SAKU (CUT)

EEK!

TIME TO CHECK THE GOODS.

SU (INCH)

...HUH?

PAKA (POP)

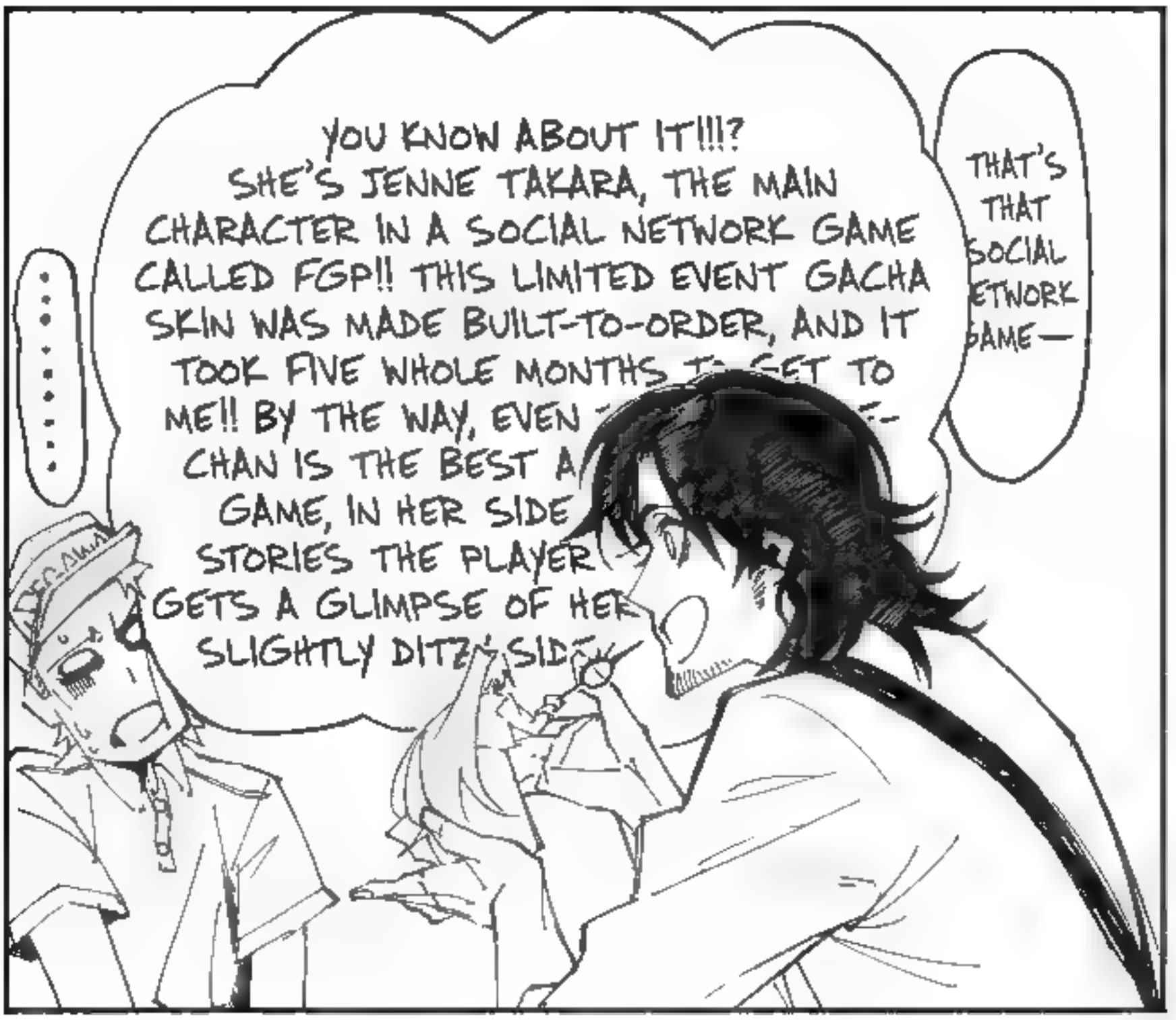
YAAAAAY!

SEGA

DON'T MENTION IT!!!

THANKS!

[END]


YOU KNOW ABOUT IT!!!?
SHE'S JENNE TAKARA, THE MAIN CHARACTER IN A SOCIAL NETWORK GAME CALLED FGP!! THIS LIMITED EVENT GACHA SKIN WAS MADE BUILT-TO-ORDER, AND IT TOOK FIVE WHOLE MONTHS TO GET TO ME!! BY THE WAY, EVEN
CHAN IS THE BEST A
GAME, IN HER SIDE
STORIES THE PLAYER
GETS A GLIMPSE OF HER
SLIGHTLY DITZ
SID
THAT'S THAT SOCIAL ETWORK AME—

THE GEEK EX-HITMAN

#04

<MISSION COMPLETE.>

<TARGETS SUPPRESSED. LIST EXECUTED WITHOUT INCIDENT.>

<Hey, Viviana.>

GACHA (CLICK)

PIRIRIRIRI (RRRRRRING)

<This message will self-destruct in five seconds' time.>

TIT

POI (TOSS)

<He fled to Japan.>

<Your orders are to depart for Japan at once and capture him.>

<The authorities will bear none of the responsibility in executing this mission.>

<I know this is sudden, but I've got your next mission for you.>

<Two months after T.O. vanished, we've finally got intel on him.>

THE SUBCULTURES! THE BL! I'M DEFINITELY HITTING UP AN ANIMATE!!

YESSSS!! JAPAN, HERE I COME!!

DOOON (BOOOM)

KOTSU

KOTSU

コツ コツ

KOTSU (CLACK)

KOTSU

コツ コツ

PON (PAT)

PON

ポン

SW (SHFF)

.....

...IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO!!!

I'M GONNA BUY SOME HOT DOUJINSHI

ゴロゴロ..
GOROGORO (RUMBLE)

大宮駅

LUMINE

SIGN: OMIYA STATION

JAPAN

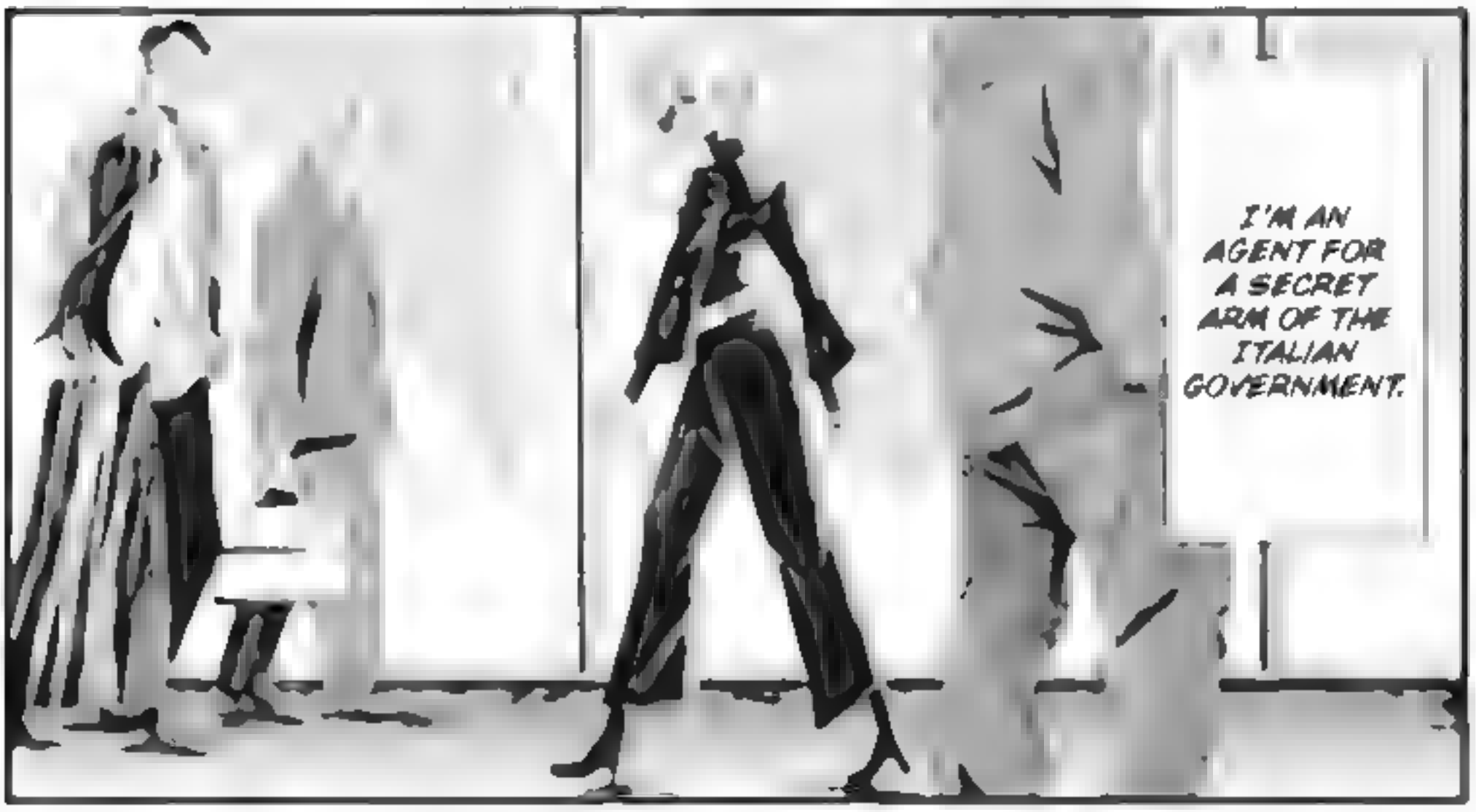
MY NAME IS VIVIANA...

PICHA (DRIP)

...AND I'M AN OTAKU.

MY FIRST CRUSH WAS ON AN ANIME CHARACTER WHEN I WAS TEN.

FAST FORWARD TO TODAY.
BY AGE FOURTEEN, MY LEFT HAND HARBORED DARK FIRE, AND MY DREAM WAS TO BE A SPY.


I'M AN AGENT FOR A SECRET ARM OF THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT.

I'M TO BRING HIM IN DEAD OR ALIVE.

"THE ORACLE OF FLORENCE," MARCO.

MY CURRENT OBJECTIVE IS THE CAPTURE OF THE LEGENDARY HITMAN THEY CALL THE GRIM REAPER—

APPARENTLY, HIS KILLS OUTNUMBER THE STARS IN THE SKY.

I EVEN HEAR NOBODY HAS LAID EYES ON HIM AND LIVED TO TELL THE TALE.

NOBODY KNOWS HIS ORIGINS OR HISTORY.

THAT BEING SAID...

I'LL COMPLETE THIS MISSION NO MATTER WHAT.

CAPTURING BASTARDS LIKE HIM IS MY JOB...

KIJIRO

TAKA

JAPAN HAS WAY TOO MANY TEMPTATIONS...

OPEN

Welcome back, milady.

Butler Café

NO WAY I'M DOING ANY OVERTIME TODAY!!

WHERE COULD YOU BE, T.O. OF FLORENCE !?

URGH ...!!

...AN ACQUAINTANCE OF MARCO-SHI'S?

...MIGHT YOU BE...

UM... SORRY TO BOTHER YOU, BUT...

YOU JUST SAID "T.O. OF FLORENCE," RIGHT?

Y-YES, WE DO!

DO YOU KNOW HIM PERSONALLY!?

HEY... STOP ...!

YOU KNOW T.O.!?

BA (LUNGE)

HUH!?

DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE HIS MINIONS!?

SHUTA (SHP)

WELL, UHH... WE'RE NOT HIS MINIONS ...

WHAT'S THIS LADY'S DEAL...?

HIS... COMRADE?

WE SEE T.O. AS A COMRADE WHO'S WORTHY OF OUR RESPECT.

THERE'S A CHANCE T.O.'S GATHERING ALLIES AND CREATING AN ORGANIZED CRIME RING.

THE SITUATION MIGHT WELL BE SEVERE...

IF SO, I'LL SETTLE THIS QUIETLY...

SHOULD I WITHDRAW FOR NOW TO REGAIN MY FOOTING...?

...AND MAKE ALL THE NECESSARY PREPARATIONS—

ZA (STEP)

TON (PAT)

SHUFU (SWISH)

GA (PULL)

HUH?

BLOOD (PSOOOM)

GYU (GRAB)

BO
(POP)

ZAPAAA
(SPLASH)

ブオオオ…

BLOOO (VROOOM)

!!!

MARCO-SHI!

...

...UMM... ERR... I...

BUT I'M GLAD...

SORRY IF I STARTLED YOU.

...THOSE LOVELY CLOTHES YOU'RE WEARING DIDN'T GET STAINED.

AH!

SHINOHARA-SHI! NAKAMURA-SHI!!

DID I KEEP YOU WAITING?

NO, WE JUST GOT HERE.

LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE STILL GOT SOME OF THE LIMITED-EDITION CDs LEFT!

...LIMITED-EDITION CDs?

IT'S THE FIRST RUN OF EU-TASO'S FIFTH ANNIVERSARY ALBUM!

IT EVEN COMES WITH A POSTER!

.....

SO BY "COMRADE" ... YOU MEANT "FELLOW OTAKU"?

YUP!

THEY'RE MY ESTEEMED SENPAIS!

THERE'S THE RAIN.

AH...IT'S RAINING...

PO (PLIP)

HERE, USE THIS.

REALLY...? BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU?

HEY, WAIT!

TRY NOT TO CATCH A COLD!

GYU (GRIP)

I HAVE A FOLDING UMBRELLA!

I'LL BE ALL RIGHT!

...THERE HE GOES.

.....

ZAAAAAA (FSHHH)

CHIRA (GLANCE)

GUESS I'LL GO HOME AND COMPILE MY INTEL.
.....
SEEMS LIKE HE'S NOT FORMING SOME CRIME SYNDICATE. SO THAT'S GOOD.

I...

...SUPER-HARD NOW!!!

I STAN HIM...

THIS UMBRELLA'S TOO CUTE !!

[END]

HM
HM
HMM!♪

THE GEEK EX-HITMAN

#05

"...DEAD OR ALIVE."

"CAPTURE T.O...

I'M HAPPY I FOUND MY TARGET SO QUICKLY...

THAT'S THE MISSION THAT TOOK ME TO JAPAN.

... AND NOT ONCE HAS HE LET HIS GUARD DOWN.

...BUT A WEEK HAS PASSED SINCE THAT INCIDENT ...

#05

MAY 21,
16:25.

I STILL HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO TAKE HIM OUT.

HE'S WEARING A PONYTAIL...

SECRET AGENT FOR THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT, VIVIANA

IT LOOKS AMAZING ON HIM...

...BUT HE'S NOT TO BE UNDER-ESTIMATED.

Ciao!

NO WAY HE SEES ME FROM THIS FAR AWAY...

MARCO-SAN.

LONG TIME NO SEE!

SHOU-SAN!

...ALERT!?

HOTTIE...

BUT STILL...

I KNOW!

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU... ...WE SHOULDN'T SEE EACH OTHER ANY-MORE...

...WHAT SORT—

JUST WHAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP DO THEY HAVE...?

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE FOR ME!

I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING BUT YOU, MARCO-SAN!

I CAN'T HELP IT...

GABA (GLOMP)

TON (TMP)

DO YOU... DO YOU NOT WANT ME...?

BUT IT'S SAFER FOR YOU WITHOUT ME...

I NEVER WANTED TO BE AWAY FROM YOU!!

IT'S HARD FOR ME TOO...!!

I...

DOCHUN (PEW)

WE CAN'T STAY HERE... GUESS WE NEED TO WITHDRAW FOR NOW...

ZAWA

ZAWA

ZAWA

DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!

LOOKS LIKE WE WERE RIGHT TO TAIL THAT GUY.

T.O. SPOTTED !!

ZAWA (CLAMOR)

THEY FOUND ME, HUH?

THAT'S..! THAT'S HOW COUPLES HOLD HANDS...!

OVER HERE, SHOU-SAN!

GYU (GRASP)

SHA

IT'S ALL MY FAULT... SO...

GO (WHAM)

GYAH!

BA (TURN)

...ARE ALLOWED TO USE GUNS.

GU (GRIP)

IN THIS COUNTRY, ONLY A SELECT FEW...

BARABARA (DISMANTLE)

GACHA (CLICK)

BAKI (SNAP)

GO (WHAM)

I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT!!

I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO COME TO HARM BECAUSE OF ME...

...I JUST DIDN'T WANT TO EXPOSE YOU TO DANGER...

I KNOW I DID IT WITHOUT ASKING YOU, BUT...

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT, SHOU-SAN.

I WANT TO BE WITH YOU, MARCO-SAN!

YOU NOT BEING THERE IS WHAT'S MAKING ME UNHAPPY...

...SHOU...

GAAAAAH!

HA-HA! UH, JUST KIDDING!

KYAAAAAA!

OH, WOW!!

I'D LOVE TO COME WITH!!

THE VOICE ACTRESS AIRI NANJOU IS DOING A SOLO CONCERT SOON! WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME WITH ME?

I'LL TAKE OUT ALL YOUR PURSUERS MYSELF, SO GO AND BE HAPPY TOGETHER!!

ALL RIGHT.

HE DOESN'T SEEM VERY SUSPICIOUS.

GET AHOLD OF YOURSELF, VIVIANA!

WHEW...

.....

DABADABA (BLEED)

THANKS!

I'LL SHOOT YOU A MESSAGE ONCE ADVANCE RESERVATIONS ARE AVAILABLE!

BACK TO THE MISSION

...

.....

NO, MA'AM ...

THEY'RE GET-WELL FLOWERS FOR SOMEONE VERY DEAR TO ME.

I SEE.

ARE THEY FOR YOUR WIFE?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

POSH (PUSH)

I'M SURE THEY'LL LOVE THEM.

GERO!

GARAGARA (SLIDE)

HOSPITAL

HOW'RE YOU FEELING?

I'M HAPPY YOU LIKE THEM.

OH...

...I'M FEELING REALLY GREAT TODAY.

LOVING THIS BREEZE!

PRETTY FLOWERS.

HEY THERE, MARCO.

...AND IT'S REALLY PUT ME AT EASE.

YESTERDAY, MY DOCTOR GAVE ME A TIMELINE...

HUH...?

HA HA HA!

REALLY, I'M FINE.

YOU'VE ALWAYS HAD A TENDENCY TO GO OVERBOARD.

JUST DON'T LET YOURSELF GET TOO COLD!

I'VE GOT A WEEK LEFT.

SO I CAN FINALLY COME OUT AND SAY IT...

...MARCO.

...
THAT'S WHEN YOU FEEL LIBERATED. IT MAKES YOU VERY UP-FRONT ABOUT YOUR FEELINGS.

PASA (FLUMP)

GERO.

...WHEN YOU KNOW FOR SURE THERE'S NOTHING THEY CAN DO AND IT'S THE END OF THE ROAD...

IT'S STRANGE HOW...

AND I ALWAYS WILL.

I LOVE YOU.

BW AA AAA

GEROOOO

SU (SHF)

THANK YOU. I'LL COME AGAIN.

WE'LL BE WAIT-ING!

BY THE LOOKS OF IT, SHE'S RETIRING FOR THE DAY.

MIGHT AS WELL CALL IT A DAY AND HEAD BACK HOME.

KURU (TURN)

I'D HATE TO HAVE TO MISS AIRI NANJOU'S CONCERT...

Hm Hm Hmm! ♪

I'LL DROP BY A CONVENIENCE STORE ON MY WAY BACK ♡

ALL RIGHT!

IN ALL LIKELIHOOD, SHE'S A SECRET AGENT FOR THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT... I DON'T WANT THINGS TO ESCALATE.

JIN (ZHIP)

ALL RIGHT!

HADES GIRL EURYDICE SEASON 3 EPISODE 3, "I'VE DRAGGED THEM WITH ME," IS STARTING!

[END]

THE GEEK EX-HITMAN

#06

HEY, MISTER!

...DO-NUTS?

HERE! HAVE SOME DONUTS!

GIMME ONE TOO!

WONDER WHO IT'S FROM...

YEAH ...

I WAS TOLD IT'S A *SUR-PRISE!*

ME?

UH-HUH!

I WAS TOLD TO GIVE YOU SOME, MISTER!

PAKA (POP)

SHURU (FWIP)

MAYBE IT'S FROM SHINOHARA-SHI OR NAKAMURA-SHI...

PIN
(CLICK)

DO
(WHAM)

NAILS!?

BUSHU (STAB)

BI (SLIT)

URGH!

PASA (FWIP)

WE'LL BE ALL RIGHT, HONEY.

EEK! I'M SCARED!

DUNNO

DID SOME-THING BLOW UP?

WH-WHAT WAS THAT?

GUSHA (CRUMPLE)

AAAA

LOOM

THIS ISN'T THE WORK OF A HITMAN...
A CRIME COMMITTED IN BROAD DAYLIGHT... AND A MECHANISM WITH LESS-THAN-STELLAR LETHALITY.

SHE DIDN'T STRIKE ME AS THE TYPE TO INVOLVE INNOCENT PASSERSBY.
BUT WOULD SHE GO THIS FAR...?
スク
SUKU (RISE)

DOES THAT MAKE THIS THE WORK OF A GOVERN-MENT AGENT...?

...THE MISSION MUST BE TO TAKE ME IN DEAD OR ALIVE.

IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN ...

ARE HER HIGHER-UPS BREATHING DOWN HER NECK? OR DID I SIMPLY MISJUDGE HER CHARACTER?

IF THE NAILS WERE INDEED HER DOING, THEN WHY IS SHE SUDDENLY ATTACKING ME SO BRAZENLY?

...THEN I'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO DISPOSE OF HER —

SU (STRIDE)

EITHER WAY, IF THE HARM SHE CAUSES CONTINUES TO ESCALATE ...

EEK!

BASA

BASA (FLAP)

DON BAM

AH!

SORRY I BUMPED INTO YOU LIKE THAT.

I-IT WAS NOTHING! I'M GLAD YOU DIDN'T CATCH A COLD.

DOKI DOKI DOKI DOKI DOK. DOKI DOKI

SHUBA

SHUBA

SHUBA (SHP)

DOKI (BADUM)

...FOR THE UM-BRELLA!

ERR. TH-THANKS ...

WHY HELLO THERE...!

WHAM

WHAT WAS

OH SHIT!! WHAT THE HELL AM I SAYING!? DID HE NOTICE!? DOES HE KNOW I GO ON HOT DOUJINSHI BUYING SPREES ON MY DAYS OFF? CALM DOWN...CALM DOWN, VIVIANA!!

HA HA HA

BON
(BOOM)

DABADABA
(TEAR)

THEY STING!

MY EYES

MY EYEEES

WH-WHAT THE—!? AN EXPLO-SION!?

KOFF

KOFF

AAAH!

TCH!

TEAR GAS!

AH!

PASHI (GRASP)

NEVER MIND THAT, WE NEED TO GET OUTTA HERE!

SO SHE'S NOT INVOLVED AFTER ALL?

TOSHU (TSH)

CHAKI (CHK)

BA (TURN)

RIKU (TWITCH)

BUSHU (SPLURT)

IT'S ONE ATTACK AFTER THE OTHER ...!

KURA (DIZZY)

IA NEUROTOXIN. HUH...?

UGH ...

MARCO!?

URGH!

GAKU (SLUMP)

MARCO !!

DOSA (THUD)

WHAT'S MORE...

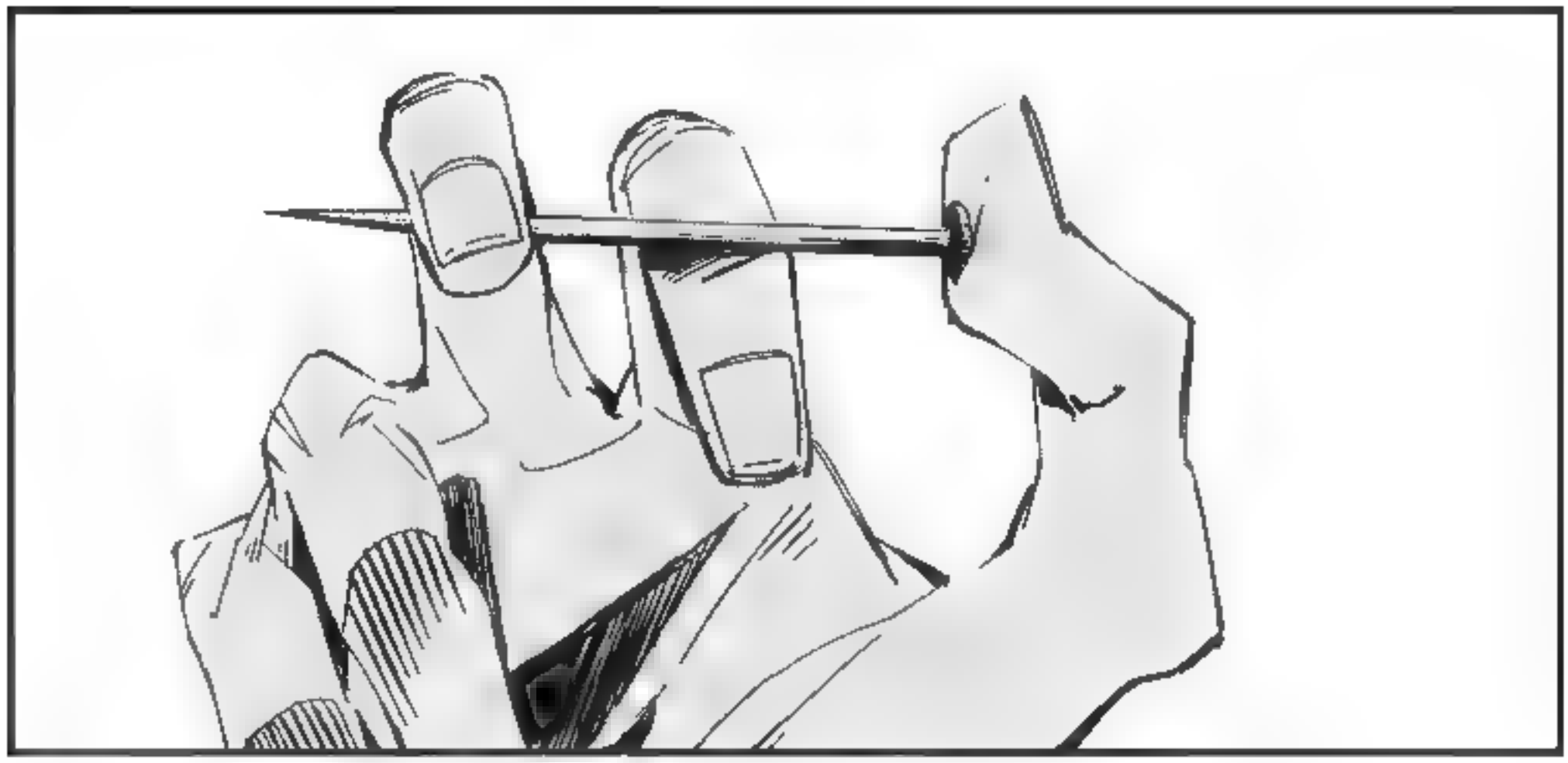
...!

IT'S A QUICK-ACTING TRANQUILIZER THAT CAN DOWN AN ELEPHANT WITH A TINY GRAZE...!!

...HE DOESN'T MIND HURTING INNOCENT BYSTANDERS TO CARRY OUT HIS MISSION...

...WE'RE DEALING WITH SOMEONE SO RUTHLESS...

IT'S HIM...!!



PIIN (TOSS)

THAT'S IT?

PA (GRAB)

NO IDEA WHAT MY ESTEEMED SENIOR AGENT WAS DOING THIS WHOLE TIME.

BUT HE'S NOT ALL THAT.

THEY CALL HIM THE LEGENDARY HITMAN. "T.O. OF FLORENCE."

I ONLY MEANT TO SAY HELLO...

...BUT I GUESS I'LL JUST KILL HIM HERE AND NOW.

[E N D]

#07

GEH HA HA!

FOOL!

That's how people find their happi-ness!

...that make them shine!!

It's the things people love and cherish ...

...usher you to the dark pit of the netherworld!

In the name of Hades, I, Eurydice ...

And if you're going to mock them for it, I'll make you pay!

Kick!!

Don't you think so too?

DOKAAAN (CRASH)

TA (TMP)

PACHI (OPEN)

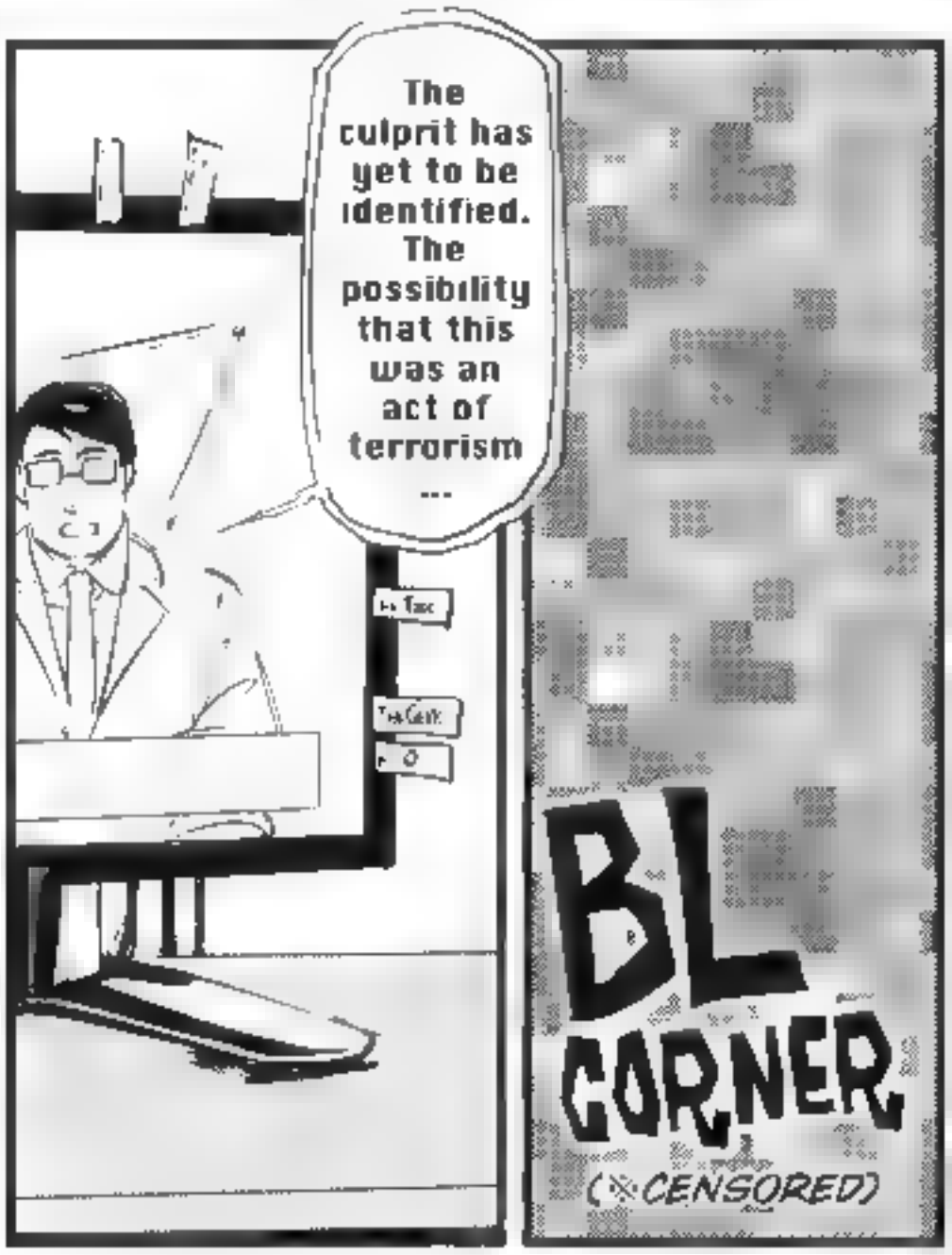
According to reports, at two p.m. today, a tear gas bomb was tossed near Omiya Station.

The area briefly succumbed to panic, and twelve were taken to the hospital, including those who sustained minor injuries.

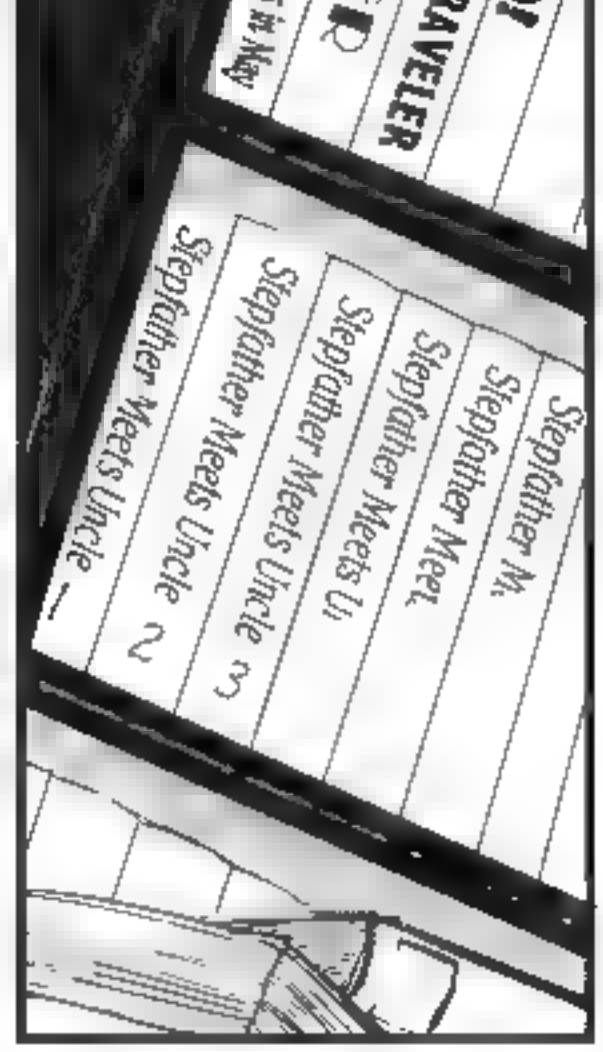
Thankfully, all are in stable condition.

GABA (RISE)

#07


The culprit has yet to be identified. The possibility that this was an act of terrorism ...

BL CORNER
(×CENSORED)


Stepfather M.
Stepfather Meet
Stepfather Meets Uncle 2
Stepfather Meets Uncle 3
Stepfather Meets Uncle —

OH...SO I GOT HIT BY A TRANQUILIZER, AND THAT'S HOW I ENDED UP HERE...

...HER ROOM, THEN...

...GUESS THAT WOULD MAKE THIS...

HOW COULD YOU DRAG ALL THOSE INNOCENTS INTO THIS?

YOU'D BETTER EXPLAIN YOURSELF ...

ONE WRONG MOVE AND PEOPLE COULD HAVE DIED!

...
ANDRE.

OH, COME NOW, VIVIANA!

I DID IT FOR YOUR SAKE!

ANDRE,
SECRET AGENT FOR THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

DO YOU EVEN GRASP THE SITUATION YOU'RE IN?

...BUT THEY ALSO SPECIFIED "DEAD OR ALIVE."

ROME MAY HAVE ORDERED T.O. OF FLORENCE "CAPTURED" ...

AND AS YOUR REPORTS READ LIKE SUMMER BREAK JOURNAL ENTRIES, YOU'RE CLEARLY NOWHERE CLOSE TO DOING SO.

YET YOU STILL HAVEN'T COMPLETED IT AFTER TWO WHOLE MONTHS.

THAT RECORD'S WHY YOU WERE SELECTED FOR THIS MISSION.

YOUR MISSION SUCCESS RATE EXCEEDS 90%.

C'MON— DON'T DISAPPOINT ME.

I SAW THE BLOOD, SWEAT, AND TEARS YOU PUT INTO SERVING OUR MOTHERLAND, AND I RESPECTED YOU FOR IT.

I BECAME AN AGENT BECAUSE I LOOKED UP TO YOU.

SO...

...IF YOU CAN'T DO IT, I WILL.

THAT'S HOW I GAINED THE RESOLVE TO PUT MY LIFE ON MY LINE TO FIGHT FOR OUR BELOVED ITALY.

AND IF YOU GET IN MY WAY, I'LL SHOW YOU NO MERCY, SENIOR COLLEAGUE OR NOT.

I'LL BE THE ONE TO ELIMINATE THAT THREAT TO THE NATION.

I'M GONNA BRING THIS TO AN END.

CHAKI (CHIKO)

DAN (BLAM)

DAN

IT'S JUST AS THEY SAID ON THE NEWS. THEY CLOSED THIS AREA OFF.

TA (STEP)

I WAS RIGHT. THE REASON VIVIANA TOOK ME TO HER PLACE INSTEAD OF TO THE HOSPITAL...

...MUST BE BECAUSE THE CULPRIT IS IN FACT A GOVERNMENT AGENT.

AND I'M BETTING SHE'S WITH THE CULPRIT AS WE SPEAK.

JUDGING BY THE POSITION, ANGLE, SPEED, AND RANGE OF THE TRANQUILIZER THAT HIT ME...

...THE PERSON MOST LIKELY FIRED IT FROM INSIDE THIS PARKING GARAGE.

THEY'RE HERE.

PATATA (PATTER)

ZUZAZA (SKIID)

HA HA HA!

THAT'S THE VIVIANA I KNOW!

THERE'S A REASON THEY CALL YOU AN ELITE AGENT!

'COURSE, THAT JUST PISSES ME OFF EVEN MORE!

.....

I'M GONNA GO ERASE THAT GUY, THOUGH.

AND YOU'LL BE A STEPPING STONE!

SAY SOME-THING ALREADY !!

CLOSE-QUARTERS COMBAT ISN'T REALLY MY FORTE...

HE'S NOT MAKING THIS EASY...

CHLIN (TEAR)

NGH!

DON (BANG)

SHE'S FAST!!

GU (GRAB)

BA (DASH)

TCH!

KYU (SQUEAK)

URGH!

GI
HI
AH!

GA
(SHK)

EGH

ARE YOU SERI-OUS?

...T.O. DOESN'T SEEM LIKE MUCH OF A THREAT.

...IF YOU ASK ME...

SHUT UP!

YOU OTAKUS MAKE ME SICK!!

I...

I'M NOT ABAN-DONING ANY-THING!!

...JUST TO TELL ME YOU'RE ABAN-DONING YOUR MISSION !?

YOU FINALLY OPEN YOUR MOUTH

AND BOYS' LOVE!? FUJOSHI ARE SO GROSS!!

GOOOON (GONG)

MAKE YOU... SICK ...!?

SAAAAAA (PALE)

...HOW DO YOU KNOW—

H—

"WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH ME, SENSEI?"

NO...

PISHI (CRACK)

I'VE DONE MY RESEARCH ON YOU.

AGH!

DOKA (KICK)

GUSA

GUSA

"YOU AND ME IN THE ROSE GARDEN," "FULL ♂ HOUSE," "MY BUTLER," "SIZZLING TOUCH," "STACCATO OF THE HEART: YOUR FINGERS, MY KEYS," "THAT TIME I REINCARNATED INTO A WORLD OF BL SWORDSMEN."

HRRK!

GUSA (STAB)

GUSA

I'D RATHER DIE THAN ENDURE ANY MORE OF THIS...

THIS IS THE MOST EXCRU-CIATING TOR-TURE...

MY HEART CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE ...

HOW EMBARRASS-ING!! HOW UNSIGHTLY!!

BAK! (CRACK)

OTAKUS ARE JUST FILTHY LOSERS SOCIETY'LL NEVER ACCEPT...

HOW DO YOU GO ON LIVING WITH THAT SHAME!!?

KOTSU (CLACK)

ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANTED TO SAY?

..Kill me now.

ZOKU (SHUDDER)

WHAT'S THIS BLOODLUST I'M SENSING...!?

TCH!

BA
(TJRN)

IT'S TIME TO USHER YOU TO THE DARK PIT OF THE NETHERWORLD.

ZAN
(DUN)

[END]

#08

ZU
CLOOM

URGH!

DON
(BLAM)

DON

UHH-!

BAT
(TURN)

DON

DON

DON

COME ON OUT, T.O. OF FLORENCE!

AND YET YOU RUN? TALK ABOUT A BAD LOOK!

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO JUST UP AND SHOWED YOUR FACE DESPITE KNOWING YOU'RE A TARGET!

HA HA HA!

HEH...

WHAT, YOU'RE JUST GONNA RUN !?

KH

DA (COUGH)

DON

DON

DON

YOU'RE A LEGENDARY HITMAN, AREN'T YOU!!?

DON (BLAM)

WHAT'S THE MATTER!? LOST YOUR NERVE?

DON

DON

I'M TIRED OF HEARING ABOUT HOW LEGENDARY YOU ARE!

PARIN

IS HIDE AND SEEK ALL YOU CAN DO!?

PARIN (CRACK)

FIRE EXTINGUISHER

AND I'M GONNA SURPASS VIVIANA AS AN AGENT!

I'M GONNA TAKE YOUR HEAD BACK WITH ME TO ITALY!

HUH?

JAKO (CLACK)

ALL FOR THE SAKE OF OUR MOTHERLAND.

HYU (FWISH)

DO (BANG)

YOU DON'T KNOW WHEN TO GIVE—

OH SHIT—

BASU (THNK)

BOFU (POOF)

BUH!

...KILL ME...

ABOUT MY DOU-JINS.

HE FOUND OUT.

TCH!

NOW.

YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE BACK WHAT YOU SAID.

FU (FWIP)

YOUR REPUTATION THAT IMPORTANT TO YOU?

HEH!

I SEE YOU'VE AT LEAST GOT YOUR PRIDE.

WHO CARES ABOUT ANYTHING LIKE THAT?

BA-CTURN

YOU CAN WRITE WHAT YOU WANT IN YOUR REPORTS.

I DON'T PAY MY REPUTATION ANY MIND.

GO (PRESS)

THEN WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO TAKE BACK?

I'LL DO YOU THE FAVOR OF HEARING YOU OUT BEFORE YOU BITE THE BIG ONE.

I WIN!!

IT'S THE THINGS PEOPLE LOVE AND CHERISH ...

...THAT MAKE THEM SHINE.

WHAT WAS THAT JUST NOW...? AM I SEEING THINGS...!?

GA (GRAB)

HI!

ERK!

THAT'S HOW PEOPLE FIND THEIR HAPPINESS!

BA (TURN)

SUU (FADE)

KASHAN (CLICK)

KASHA

DAMMIT! I LET MY GUARD DOWN!

PI (FWIP)

AND IF YOU'RE GOING TO MOCK THEM FOR IT, I'LL MAKE YOU PAY!

BARA

BARA (DISMANTLE)

MORE OTAKU SHIT? YOU'RE JUST AS PATHETIC AS HER!

HE TOOK IT APART!? WHAT'S HE TRYING TO PULL...?

IN THE NAME OF HADES, I, EURYDICE ...

...USHER YOU TO THE DARK PIT OF THE NETHER-WORLD!

I'VE HAD IT UP TO HERE WITH THIS OTAKU BULLSH—

CAN IT!!

KA (SNAP)

DA (LUNGE)

EXTREME SIGNAL BLASTER (IRL EDITION)

DOSA (THUD)

HALF-HEARTED RESOLVE WILL GET YOU NOWHERE.

GAH!

DON'T LOOK DOWN ON THE POWER OF OTAKUS!

DON (BAN)

110 ヤ

PACHI (OPEN)

HRMM...

GAKU (CRUMPLE)

...SO THIS IS T.O... THE TOP OTAKU...

MY BEURYDI GEEK!!

...LINKING US TO THE NETHERWORLD ...

THE BITTERSWEET SIGNAL...

THAT IS THE GIFT SHE BESTOWS UPON THOSE OF US WHO HOLD FAST TO OUR CONVICTIONS.

BY VIVIANA

TWO WEEKS LATER

Ho fame

ONE WONDERS WHAT HIS AIMS MIGHT BE.

THAT MUCH WAS MADE CLEAR WHEN HE NEUTRAL-IZED MY GUN UPON TAKING IT FROM ME.

IT DOES NOT APPEAR AS THOUGH HE IS MURDERING ANY MORE PEOPLE WHILE HE IS HERE IN JAPAN.

I FINALLY MADE A FULL RECOVERY, AND I'M ABLE TO MOVE AGAIN...T.O.'S SHEER POWER IS ALIVE AND WELL EVEN IN RETIREMENT.

KATA KATA KATA KATA KATA KATA KATA KATA

カタカタカタカタカタカタカタカタ

KATA KATA KATA KATA KATA KATA (KLAK) KATA

カタカタカタカタカタカタカタ

T.O. IS A FORMIDABLE OPPONENT, BUT NEVERTHELESS, I WILL STAY IN JAPAN IN ORDER TO SEE THE MISSION TO COMPLETION NO MATTER WHAT.

AS FOR VIVIANA, HER COMBAT SKILLS ASIDE, SHE'S LITERALLY JUST AN OTAKU, AND TO BE FRANK, I CAN'T MAKE HEADS OR TAILS OF ANY OF IT I INTEND TO WORK ALONGSIDE HER TO CAPTURE T.O.

P.S.

JAPAN HAS-GREAT PANCAKES.

[END]

#09

I THANK YOU FOR GATHERING HERE TODAY.

NOW, THEN...

#09

...LET'S START THE INAUGURAL HADES GIRL EURYDICE *FAMOUS SCENE* DISCUSSION MEET-UP.

WHAT IS HADES GIRL EURYDICE, ANYWAY?

WAIT — HOLD ON A SEC!

AS WE'RE DISCUSSING FAMOUS SCENES, IT'S NO SURPRISE I'M BRINGING UP THE ICONIC LINE IN THE SEASON ONE FINALE, "EVEN SO, I—"

I'LL GO FIRST.

HADES GIRL EURYDICE IS AN ANIME AIMED AT LITTLE GIRLS WHERE ONE GIRL FIGHTS TO UPHOLD THE PEACE IN HER TOWN, ALL WHILE KEEPING HER TRUE IDENTITY A SECRET.

BUT ONE DAY, HER PEACEFUL LIFE IS FLIPPED UPSIDE DOWN WHEN THE FORCES OF EVIL CALLED THE KAMASHIYA COLLECTIVE, AS COMMANDED BY TERCIOPELO, ATTACKED ASAHIGAOKA. HER BELOVED PARENTS SNATCHED AWAY FROM HER, AKARI ESCAPES THE COLLECTIVE'S CLUTCHES AND OBTAINS THE MAGIC POWER OF THE NETHERWORLD BY SEALING A DARK CONTRACT WITH THE NETHER-FAIRY ORUPPE.

AKARI MYOUGA IS AN ORDINARY MIDDLE SCHOOL SECOND-YEAR WHO LIVES IN THE BRIGHT AND CHEERY TOWN OF ASAHIGAOKA. SHE SPENT HER DAYS WITH THE WINSOME TOWNSFOLK, INCLUDING HER KIND PARENTS AND HER BEST FRIEND, TOMOMI SAIGUUJI.

...AN ANIME AIMED AT LITTLE GIRLS...

BACK TO WHAT I WAS SAYING ...

THE FAMOUS LINE IN SEASON ONE'S FINALE, "EVEN SO, I STILL LOVE YOU."

THAT WHOLE LOVE STORY BRINGS A TEAR TO MY EYE JUST TALKING ABOUT IT.

IT LENDS WEIGHT TO THE TERM "THE BITTER-SWEET SIGNAL."

THE THEME OF HER DAY-OFF ENSEMBLE: "WHIMS OF A BLACK CAT"

THE FORESHADOWING WAS SUBTLE AND EXPERTLY DONE, AND IT CULMINATED IN THAT FINALE.

THE REVELATION OF THE BOSS BADDY TERCIOPELO'S TRUE IDENTITY WAS SHOCKING...

IF YOU'RE ASK-ING YOUR-SELF ...

... HOW THIS SITUATION CAME TO BE...

ONE HOUR PRIOR

WHAT'RE YOU DOING, VIVIANA!!?

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE MEETING UP WITH OUR TARGET!

WON'T IT HINDER THE MISSION?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

WE'RE OFF TODAY! WE'RE NOT ON THE JOB!

SO THE MISSION'LL HAVE TO WAIT!

BUT WE HAVEN'T EVEN SENT BACK A PROPER REPORT YET...

WE NEED TO MAKE UP FOR OUR FAILURE, AND FAST!

I'M AGAINST DOING UNPAID OVERTIME ON DAYS OFF.

I REFUSE TO WORK!

(KIRI (GLINT))

LIKE YOU'RE ABLE TO GET ANY WORK DONE WHEN YOU'RE ON THE CLOCK...

'COS YOU'RE COMING WITH.

NEVER MIND THE MISSION— ARE YOU READY FOR THIS, ANDRE?

COME AGAIN?

.....

YOU'RE THE REASON THE WORK'S PILING UP!

AS YOUR SENIOR COLLEAGUE, I'M ORDERING YOU TO TAKE A BREAK.

DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE THINKING OF WORKING.

...FINE, BUT I STILL DON'T WANT TO MEET UP WITH T.O.

THE THEME OF HIS DAY-OFF ENSEMBLE: DRESSY CASUAL FOR WHEN HE'S INVITED OUT

!?

ARE YOU SURE?

DI (FWIP)

THEN MAYBE I'LL SPREAD THIS PHOTO...

...OF THE COOL, SHARP-WITTED AGENT'S CRINGE MOMENT.

PISHI (CRACK)

ALL RIGHT!

...ALLOW ME TO ACCOMPANY YOU.

...

URGH...

I'LL TREAT YOU TO SOME PANCAKES!

WHAT'RE YOU SO MOPEY FOR?

HAAH... ROOKIE MISTAKE, ANDRE!

MOSHA MOSHA

モシャ モシャ

MOSHA (MUNCH) MOSHA

モシャ モシャ

FAST FORWARD TO NOW

IT REALLY IS. AND ALL THE MORE SO, CONSIDERING

IT'S SUCH AN AMAZING TWIST.

I CERTAINLY NEVER SUSPECTED IT!

WHO COULD'VE GUESSED TERCIOPELO WAS IN FACT HER CLASSMATE KOUSAKA HIKAGE?

... WAS WHAT SHE WAS NEVER ABLE TO SAY TO HIKAGE AS AKARI.

THE LINE SHE SAID WHEN SHE, AS EURYDICE, DELIVERED THE FINISHING BLOW AGAINST TERCIOPELO ...

...HIKAGE WAS THE BOY AKARI HAD AN UNREQUITED CRUSH ON...

BAN (BAM)

...I'LL COME SEE YOU!

I SWEAR...

"I SWEAR I'LL COME SEE YOU!"

DAMN, THAT'S SCARY!

I'M RIGHT THERE WITH YOU.

THAT SCENE IS SO GOD-TIER THAT US EU-TASO DEVOTEES DEBATE IT TO THIS DAY.

...AS THE HIKAGE SHE KNOWS!! UGH, IT'S JUST SO GOOD!!

...HE WILLINGLY TAKES OFF HIS MASK AND FLASHES AKARI A SMILE...

AND THEN, RIGHT BEFORE TERCIO-PELO DIES...

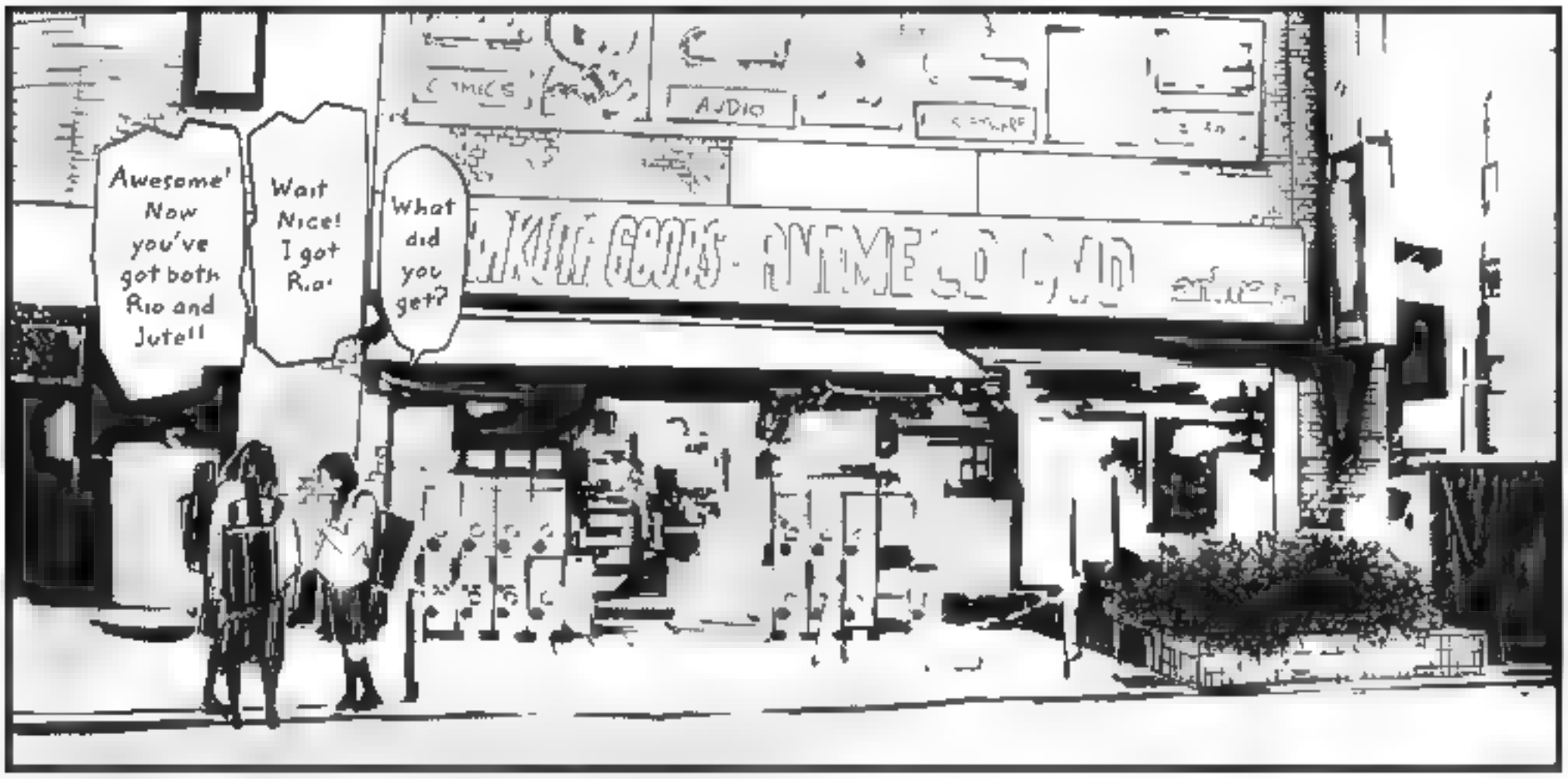
...FROM THAT DRAWING!!?

HOW DID THEY GET ALL THAT...

IF YOU ASK ME, I THINK EURYDICE'S—

NO, AKARI'S FEELINGS GOT THROUGH TO HIKAGE !!

YEAH!



I'LL GO NEXT.

I'D LIKE TO TALK ABOUT SEASON 2, EPISODE 3.

THE EPISODE EURYDICE'S IDENTITY IS REVEALED TO HER FRIEND, SAIGUUJI TOMOMI.

WHEN SHE HEARS HER SAY, "THAT'S YOU, ISN'T IT... AKARI?"...

DOKI

DOKI (BADUM)

DOKI DOKI

IT'S A SCENE THAT SHOWS THE VIEWERS THE STRENGTH OF HER CONVICTIONS AND HOW DEEPLY SHE CARES ABOUT TOMOMI.

GOKU (GULP)

THE THEME OF HIS JUST-AN-ADULT-HAVING-FUN ENSEMBLE- "JAPANESE YAKUZA"

KA (SNAP)

BAN (BAM)

...to protect you!

I'm here...

"I'M EURYDICE, AND I'M HERE TO PROTECT YOU!"

WOW, THAT'S TERRIBLE.

FOR A CARTOON FOR LITTLE GIRLS, IT'S PUT TOGETHER PRETTY WELL... IT'S CUTE.

You can really feel the depth of their bond!

That inner due. between not wanting to deceive her best friend and not wanting to expose her to danger..

Great minds! I was on the edge of my seat that whole episode!

I'm so enamored by the strength of Eurydice's determination!

That episode's not that sp.ashy, but I f nd myself watching .t over and over

Right, exactly!

WONDER WHAT THE ACTUAL SCENE LOOKS LIKE... AH...I SEE, I SEE...

SU SU SU (SWIPE)

ZZZ...

C'MON, THEY'RE EVEN SINGING EACH OTHER'S PRAISES!

And your love for Eu-taso is coming through loud and clear too!

You took the words right out of my mouth, Viviana! You just get it!

BUT THOSE ARTISTIC ABOMINATIONS ARE ALL OFF!! HOW ARE THEY BONDING OVER THAT...?

DYNAMIC? COOL? ARE WE LOOKING AT THE SAME DRAWING!?

And if I draw a house or something here, it'll be easier to tell she's flying!

Oh yeah, totally

If I draw a cat here, it might soften the image!

Ah, an idea!

The way you draw her is so dynamic and hard hitting! It's very cool!

The way you draw Eu-taso is so cute, Marco!

CUTE? GET REAL!

OOPS, DREW HER ARMS A BIT TOO LONG.

THAT WOULDN'T LOOK OUT OF PLACE IN SOME DISTURBED KID'S SKETCHBOOK IN A HORROR MOVIE.

SHUBABABABABABA (SKETCH)

TO SUM UP EVERYTHING YOU TWO HAVE BEEN SAYING...

BABABABABABA

THAT'S ENOUGH!

DAN (SLAM)

BI (FWIP)

...IT'S THIS...

RIGHT!!?

KAAA (BLUSH)

IT'S A BAD HABIT FROM MY COMPOSITE SKETCH TRAINING... MY PEN JUST STARTED FLYING...

...

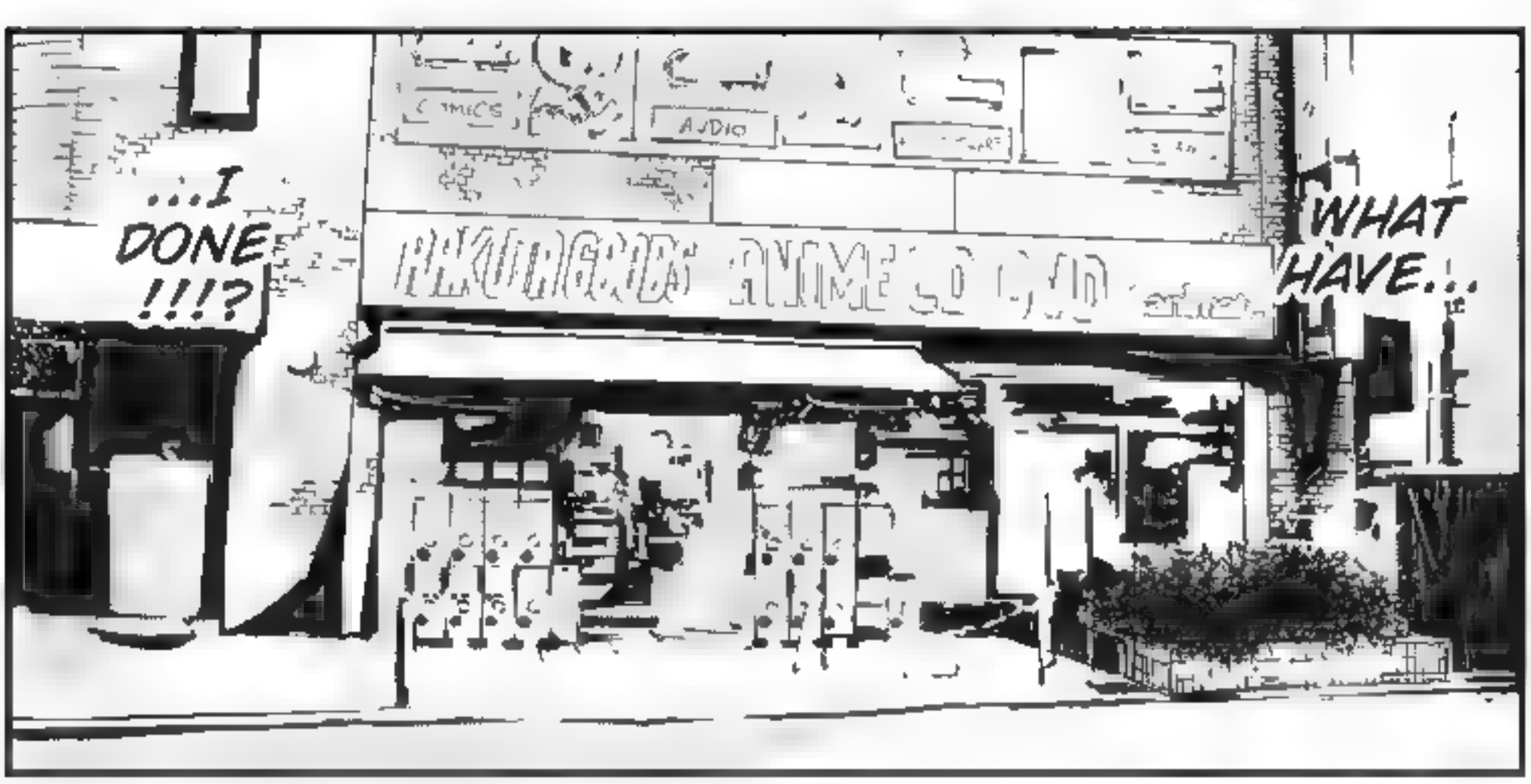
OH... OH NO...

GATA

ANDRE!

GATA (CLATTER)

KIII
ZUBAAAN BAM
LET'S MAKE A DOUJINSHI!!


COMICS
AUDIO
...I DONE !!!?
WHAT HAVE...

[END]

Noooo...
MAKE HER LEGS A LITTLE THICKER!!
MAKE HER HAIR LONGER !!

THE GEEK EX-HITMAN

#10

FURA (STAGGER)

CHICHUN (CHIRP)

CHUN

CHUN

KACHA (CHK)

GIIIIIIII (CREEEAK)

#10 ||「チ

PACHIN (CLICK)

PA (FLASH)

SUTA
スタ
SUTA
スタ

SUTA
(TMP)
スタ

PAKA
(POP)

KACHAN
(CHIK)

KACHI

KACHI
(CHIK)

ROACH-B-GUN

THEY'LL NEVER GET THE CHANCE TO RUN!

THE CHANCE TO RUN!

RUN!

TURAA (PACKED)

K GLARE

KASA (SKITTER)

KASA

20 : 42

ONE DAY, IT SUDDENLY APPEARED.

NOOOOO!!

WHAT IF IT CRAWLS INTO MY MOUTH WHILE I'M ASLEEP...?

...AND EVEN THE FAINTEST SOUNDS HAVE BEEN SETTING OFF MY INNER ALARMS.

NOW EVERY STAIN ON THE CEILING MAKES ME PANIC..

BUT IT VANISHED JUST AS QUICKLY.

7:18

I WASN'T ABLE TO SLEEP A WINK ALL NIGHT.

AND THEN ...

IT SHOWED ITSELF ONCE AGAIN

SLI (SWF) !!!

KO IT IN SECONDS

I'LL ENGAGE THE ENEMY WHILE MAKING SURE MY KITTY DOESN'T GET CAUGHT IN THE CROSS FIRE.

MY WEAPON? THIS HERE CANISTER OF ROACH-B-GONE.

GOING OFF WHAT MY COMRADES SAID, I SHOULD'VE PREPARED FOR THE ROACH MENACE IN ADVANCE.

YOU HAD A WHOLE NEST OF 'EM UNDER YOUR SINK!

YOU DON'T GET THEM IN ITALY? LET ME TELL YA, THEY'RE THE GROSSEST.

I'M TOLD ROACHES ARE A FACT OF LIFE IN APPARTA-MENTI GIAPPONESI.

AS SUCH, IF I DON'T PICK IT OFF TODAY, IT'S ALL OVER!!

MOREOVER, THEY PACK ENORMOUS LEVELS OF VITALITY AND REPRODUCTIVE POWER.

THEY MAKE THEIR HOME IN ANY AND ALL CREVICES AND DARK SPOTS.

PIKU (TWITCH)

CHIPI CHIPI

CHIPI (SLURP)

YAKUZA'S WATER BOWL

...!!

GATAN (THUNK)

KASA

KASA (SKITTER)

THERE!!

BA
(FWIP)

KASA
(SKITTER)

KASA

SHUUU
(FSHHH)

...
IS IT
DEAD?

...

KASA

KASA

KASA

KASA

KASA

KASA

KA

GATA
GATA (RATTLE)
BITAN (WHAP)
BIKU (JOLT)
KASA
KASA
KASA

IN A WAY, IT'S THE ONE THAT'S CORNERED.

ON THE OTHER HAND... THIS MIGHT BE A BLESSING IN DISGUISE.

OF ALL PLACES, YOU HAD TO GO BEHIND THE POSTER OF EU-TASO.

...WHAT DO I DO...?

THAT SAID...

DON (BAM)

...IT'LL RUIN THE POSTER!

SHUUU (SHHH)

IF I SPRAY IT...

...IT'LL RUIN THE POSTER!!

(BAN) BAM

IF I CRUSH IT...

...IT'LL RUIN THE POSTER!!!

BIII (STRAP)

IF I USE TAPE AND STARVE IT...

...ONLY ONE OPTION...

WHICH LEAVES ME WITH...

I'LL JUST HAVE TO WAIT!!!

KAAAAA (CAAAW)

KAAAAA

I NEED TO SETTLE THIS BEFORE THE LIVESTREAM STARTS...

GOKU (GULP)

ゴク

HOW MANY HOURS HAVE PASSED? I'VE GOT YAIYAI-SAN'S LIVESTREAM LET'S PLAY TO WATCH TODAY...

MIGHT AS WELL PULL IT UP.

IT'S ALL OR NOTHING NOW.

!?

GABA (LIFT)

IT'S NOT THERE...!!?

BUT...BUT I SAW IT GO BEHIND THE POSTER...

HUH? HOW'S THAT POSSIBLE!?

ZOKU (SHUDDER)

DID IT GET AWAY?

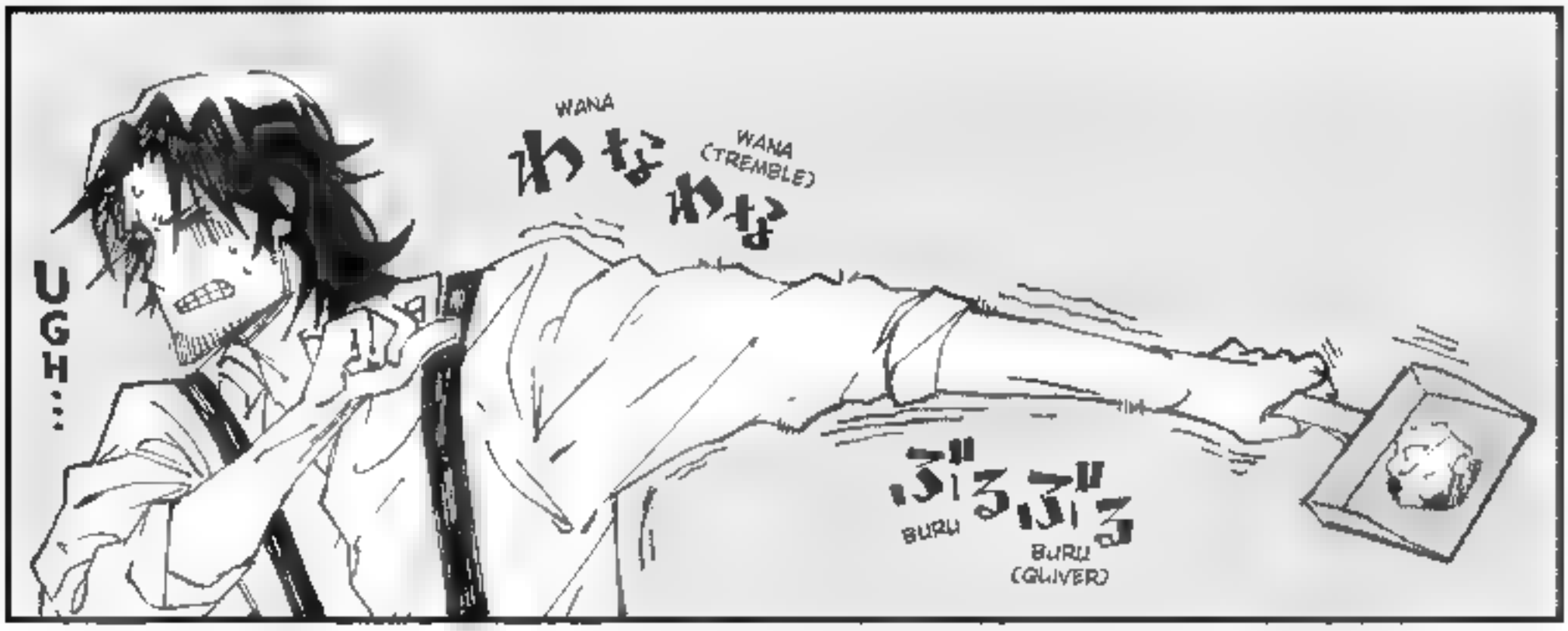
FURI

FURI (SHAKE)

PUCHI (SPLAT)

SHUTA (LUNGE)

[END]


UGH...
WANA
わな
WANA (TREMBLE)
わな
ぶるぶる
BURU
ぶるぶる
BURU (QUIVER)

THE GEEK EX-HITMAN

#101

THE CLOTHES I'LL BE WEARING CAME IN TIME TOO.

GASA (RUSTLE)

POFU (FOLD)

DECEMBER 25

DON (THUD)

WITH THIS MUCH MONEY, I SHOULD HAVE NO ISSUES TRANSACTING WITH OTHER GROUPS.

PACHI (SNAP)

AND I'VE GOT THE COIN.

#11

THAT'S EVERYTHING I NEED...

...FOR COMIC SUMMIT, A.K.A. COMISU.

PATAN (SHUT)

ALL THAT'S LEFT...

...IS TO WAIT FOR CONFIRMATION THAT OUR DOUJINSHI'S COMPLETE.

TIRORIRORIN
(RING-A-LING)
TIRORIRORIN

OH!
IS VIVIANA CALLING ME TO TELL ME IT'S DONE ALREADY?

AH, HELLO ?
VIVIANA! DID YOU COMPLE—

THE MANU-SCRIPT IS RUINED !!

BAN (BAM)

WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED!?

THE MANU-SCRIPT...

WHERE...

!?

IT TURNED TO ASH!?

IT'S HERE.

WELL...

HOW DID THAT HAPPEN...?

.... WHAT THE —?

I HAD NO INTEREST IN IT WHATSOEVER, AND THE NUMBER OF OFF-THE-CLOCK WORK HOURS I PULLED WAS EYE-WATERING... BUT I CAN TAKE PRIDE IN THE END RESULT.

IT'S FINALLY DONE... I HAD NO DESIRE TO DRAW IT, BUT SHE PULLED RANK ON ME. IT'S ALREADY BEEN A MONTH SINCE SHE HAD ME COME HERE AFTER WORK EVERY DAY TO DO NOTHING BUT DRAW THIS DOUJINSHI.

TWO HOURS PRIOR

IT'S FINISHED !!

THERE'S NO DOUBT IT'LL BE A HIT MOVIE THE WORLD OVER! (IT'S A DOUJINSHI.)

THE SAD, SWEET MIRACLE OF LOVE BETWEEN EU-TASO AND HIKAGE, THE BOSS BADDY...

THIS IS A WORK OF ART! AND NOT LEAST BECAUSE OF HOW GOOD THE STORY I THOUGHT UP IS!

TOPOPO (GLUG)

JUUU (SIZZLE)

JUUU

YAY!!

I'LL CELEBRATE BY TREATING YOU TO SOME OF MY ITALIAN CUISINE!

RIGHT NOW, I'M JUST ECSTATIC TO FINALLY BE FREE!

FINALLY!

GOOOOAAA (FWOOOH)

YOU CAN'T ACTUALLY COOK AT ALL, CAN YOU!!?

GACHA (CLICK)

GACHA

IT'S A FIRE!!

GOOOOOO (FWOOOSH)

BUT...

TH- THIS IS A FLAMBÉ ...

HEY!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING!!? PUT IT OUT!!

BO TURN

IT'S GOING OUT...

WHEW ...

SHUUUU (SIZZZZ)

AND THAT'S HOW IT ALL TRANSPIRED.

IN CINDERS.

MY...MY WORK...A MONTH... OF MY LIFE...

AND WE'RE LISTED IN THE COMISU CATALOG, SO WE CAN'T CANCEL...

HAAH... WHAT NOW? ALL OF OUR HARD WORK WENT UP IN SMOKE...

WE'VE GOT THREE DAYS TILL COMISU.

December

25

FRI

...

IF WE WORK ON IT TOGETHER, WE'LL MAKE IT IN TIME!

I REFUSE TO GIVE UP.

YOU WANNA DO WHAT TOOK A MONTH IN THREE DAYS?

...WHAT'RE YOU SAYING...?

...MY ARTISTIC COMPATRIATE.

I WON'T ABANDON ...

I CAN'T JUST DISCARD YOU, ANDRE! YOU BROUGHT MY STORY TO LIFE!

MARCO'S RIGHT! WE'VE GOT THREE DAYS TILL SHOWTIME!

...

WE'LL HELP YOU!

DON (BAM)

※SEE CHAPTER 19

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

...RIGHT, FINE.

GA (GRAB)

THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY!

WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER— RIDE OR DIE!

GENTLEMAN TOP X BRATTY BOTTOM? LET'S GO.

OH? THAT SOUNDED LIKE A PROPOSAL.

December
26
SAT

ペラ (FWIP)

December
26
SAT

December
27
SUN

December

28

MON

LOOK AT THAT EXPRESSION.

HISO (WHISPER) ﾌﾑﾐ

I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT IT EITHER.

WHA—!?

...
"HE CAN'T REALLY BE T.O. OF FLORENCE, CAN HE?"

SOME-TIMES, I FIND MYSELF THINKING ...

THE LOOK HE GETS ON HIS FACE NOW.

THAT'S NOT THE MAN WHO LIVED IN GLOOM AND SHADOW FOR SO LONG.

THE ONLY T.O. HERE IN JAPAN IS MARCO, THE TOP OTAKU. AND HE'S...

SIGH...

THE FACE I DREW TURNED OUT PRETTY COOL!

ALL RIGHT!

KARI

KARI

KARI (SCRIBBLE)

HUH?

PLEASE WORK.

VIVIANA...

THREE A.M...

DECEMBER 28.

PAAAN (SPAAARKLE)

IT'S DONE!!!

I WON'T HAND OVER THIS HEART!

ONLY...

WE'VE STILL GOT ONE HURDLE LEFT.

WELL... I'LL ALLOW IT.

MY HAND

YEAH, IT FEELS LIKE A MASTER-WORK!

WAIT HI

NOW IT'S GOT ALL OUR SOULS POURED INTO IT!

WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO BIND THE BOOKS.

GURU GURU GURU GURU GURU GURU GURU GURU (DIZZY) GURU

... THEY'LL FALL SHORT COMPARED TO PROPERLY BOUND BOOKS...

AND AS PHOTO-COPY BOOKS

YOU'RE RIGHT. AT THIS RATE, WE BARELY HAVE TIME TO STAPLE THE PHOTO-COPIES INTO "BOOKS."

GURU GURU GURU GURU GURU GURU GURU GURU

...

... RESORTING TO PHOTOCOPY BOOKS WILL CHEAPEN ALL OF THE WORK WE PUT INTO THIS...

MORE THAN ANY-THING ...

AND I DREW HIKAGE SO WELL TOO...

GURU GURU GURU GURU GURU GURU GURU GURU

HUH? I MADE HIM MYSELF ...

VIVIANA... WHAT'S THAT STUFFED TOY...?

Y-YEAH. I DID...

YOU SEWED IT AND EVERY-THING?

THEN YOU MUST HAVE SEWING TOOLS, RIGHT...?

OF COURSE I DO! I'M A LADY!

WHAT!? I KNOW I BOTCHED IT, OKAY? YOU DON'T HAFTA INSINUATE THAT I SUCK...

THAT'S IT!

... HUH?

LET'S SEW THEM INTO BOOKS!!

BAN (BAM)

BI (JAB)

BI

YOU'RE A GENIUS !!!

YOU'RE ...

WE'LL DO WHAT IT TAKES...

SHURURURURURURU (FWISH)

...TO MAKE IT THE BEST WE CAN...!!

BIII (PRESS)

BIII

BIII

DAWN THE NEXT DAY—

DECEMBER 29

7:10 A.M.

TOKYO

ZA (SHK)

COMISU, HERE WE COME!!

The Geek Ex-Hitman, Vol. 1

[END]

OF CATS AND EGOS

I CAN'T WAIT TO CONDUCT THE UNSEALING CEREMONY FOR THE BOOKSTORE-ONLY ORIGINAL STICKER.

THEN I'LL READ THE MANGA I JUST BOUGHT, VOLUME THREE OF EU-TASO: DAYS IN THE LIFE.

PHEW...IT'S ESPECIALLY COLD TODAY...I WANNA GET HOME TO MY WARM ROOM AND DRINK SOME COFFEE.

KIRAKIRA キラキラ KIRAKIRA (SPARKLE)

THAT'S A DRAGON HUNTER SERIES-THEMED CAT HAT!!

AH!

ALL RIGHT! I'VE GOT NINE HUNDRED YEN ON HAND! THAT'S THREE GACHA PULLS!! I'LL BE ABLE TO GET YAKUZA A NICE SOUVENIR!!

...ON YAKUZA!

MEOW!

I'M SURE IT'D LOOK SUPER-CUTE..

STILL CUTE, THOUGH.

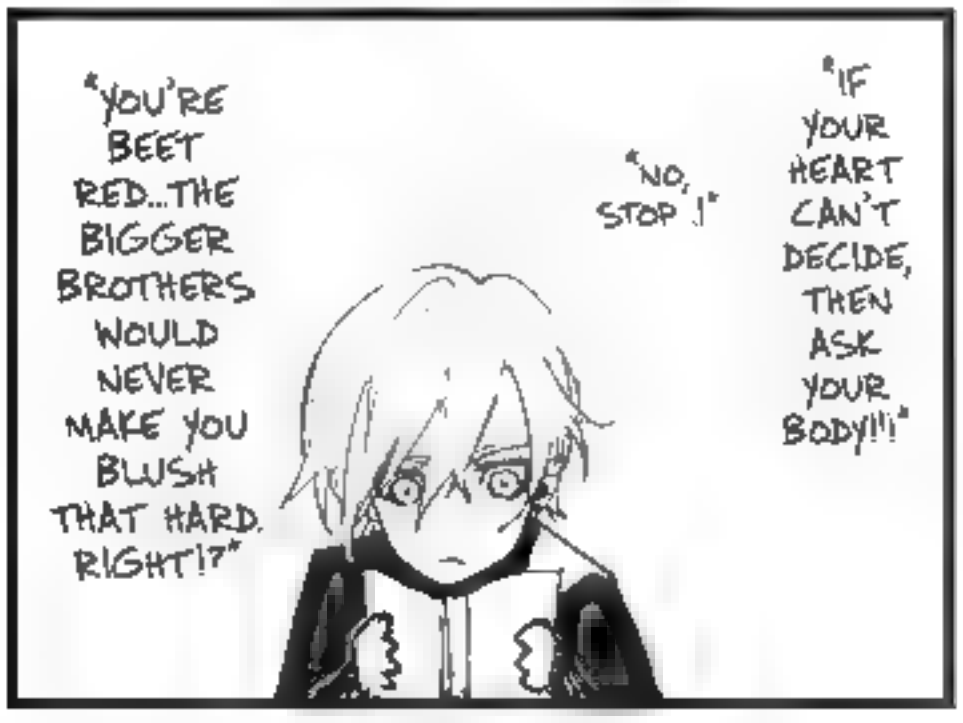
HAAH...

TETETETE (TROT) テテテテ...

TALK ABOUT ROTTEN LUCK...

...I CAN'T BELIEVE I GOT THE SAME CAT HAT THREE TIMES IN A ROW. AND IT'S THE ONE FOR THE BLANDEST GROSS-OUT CHARACTER DESIGN TOO...

"FULL ♂ HOUSE"



ANDRE'S NIGHTMARE

AAAA

I SET THE TIMER!

JIII (EEE)

PI (BEEP)

VIVIANA, IT'S TIME!

I KNOW! I'M PUTTING ON EYELINER, SO WAIT A SEC!!

PIII

PRRRR

YOU C'MON COME TOO, YAKUZA!

THE GEEK EX-HITMAN

Thank you so, so much for purchasing Volume 1.

PASHA (SNAP)

THE GEEK EX-HITMAN

Translation Notes

COMMON HONORIFICS

no honorific: Indicates familiarity or closeness; if used without permission or reason, addressing someone in this manner would constitute an insult.

-san: The Japanese equivalent of Mr./Mrs./Miss. If a situation calls for politeness, this is the fail-safe honorific.

-kun: Used most often when referring to boys, this indicates affection or familiarity. Occasionally used by older men among their peers, but it may also be used by anyone referring to a person of lower standing.

-chan: An affectionate honorific indicating familiarity used mostly in reference to girls; also used in reference to cute persons or animals regardless of gender.

-sensei: A respectful term for teachers, artists, or high-level professionals.

-senpai: An honorific used for upperclassmen and older, more knowledgeable colleagues.

Onii-chan: An affectionate term used for older brothers or brother figures.

PAGE 5

The "**bittersweet**" here is actually a play on the word "love" (*ai*), written with a character that has the same pronunciation but a different meaning—"sorrow."

PAGE 10

Fantastico Giappone is literally "fantastic Japan" in Italian.

PAGE 18

Otaku, or as it's translated in the title of the series, "geek," is a Japanese term used to refer to hard-core fans of almost anything, but most commonly manga, anime, idols, and games.

PAGE 21

"***-taso***" is an intentional misspelling of "*-tan*." The "*-tan*" honorific is an even cuter way of saying "*-chan*," and in *katakana*, the Japanese syllabary used primarily for foreign words, "n" and "so" look extremely similar, so it can be easy to mix the two up. An English equivalent would be the intentional misspelling of "own" as "pwn" in the early days of online gaming.

PAGE 22

Moe is a term used to describe a specific type of cuteness commonly found in anime and manga characters. Its exact meaning is subjective, from "so cute, you want to protect it," to "cutely tragic," to "cute in a sensual way."

PAGE 39

FGP is a reference to *Fate/Grand Order*, one of the highest-grossing mobile games of all time. With incredibly low odds of obtaining the game's rarest characters, players tend to get extremely attached to them, and limited-edition figures are a common purchase for hard-core fans.

Gacha is short for *gachapon*, a type of vending machine where you pay money for a random item, and as Marco demonstrates, obtaining duplicates of undesired items is an all-too-common occurrence when using these machines.

PAGE 42

BL stands for boys' love, a genre of manga aimed at women that prominently features same-sex relationships between men.

Animate is Japan's biggest retailer of anime, video games, and manga, with over a hundred stores across the country.

Doujinshi are self-published books that are typically based off of existing series, written and illustrated by passionate fans, as well as aspiring manga creators looking to get their start in the industry. What Viviana is talking about, however, are *usui hon* (literally "thin books"), which are *doujinshi* featuring adult content that tend to have shorter page counts, hence the name.

PAGE 44

Judging by the "dark fire" Viviana is talking about, along with her eyepatch and bandaged hand, it's likely she suffered from a bout of *chuunibyou*, a Japanese term used to refer to people—usually middle schoolers—who have convinced themselves that they have special powers, like shooting fire out of their hand.

PAGE 54

Senpai can be used to peers who are older or more experienced than oneself. Here, Marco calls his "comrades" *senpais* because they've been in the fandom longer than he has.

PAGE 107

Fujoshi is a term meaning "rotten woman," and is used by female fans of the boys' love genre in a jokingly self-deprecating manner. It's a pun on the word *fujoshi* (meaning "woman") and the character *fu* (meaning "rotten.")

PAGE 125

Ho fame is Italian for "I'm hungry."

PAGE 137

Yakuza is a term used to refer to organized crime syndicates that originated in Japan. As the Japanese equivalent of the Italian mafia, it seems a fitting moniker for an Italian hitman's cat.

PAGE 164

Comisu, or Comic Summit, is a reference to Comiket—short for Comic Market, a *doujinshi* convention where artists and authors from across the country gather to exhibit and sell their works. It's the largest such event in Japan.

THE GEEK EX HITMAN

THE GEEK EX-HITMAN

Ko-dai

1

THE GEEK EX-HITMAN 1

Ko-dai

TRANSLATION: Giuseppe di Martino • LETTERING: Erin Hickman

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

SONO OTAKU, MOTO KOROSHIYA. Vol. 1
© Ko-dai 2020
First published in Japan in 2020 by KADOKAWA CORPORATION, Tokyo. English translation rights arranged with KADOKAWA CORPORATION, Tokyo, through Tuttle-Mori Agency, Inc., Tokyo.

English translation © 2022 by Yen Press, LLC

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First Yen Press Edition: August 2022
Edited by Yen Press Editorial:
Mark Gallucci, Carl Li
Designed by Yen Press Design: Andy Swist

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Library of Congress Control Number:
2022935394

ISBNs: 978-1-9753-3778-0 (paperback)
978-1-9753-3779-7 (ebook)

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

WOR

Printed in the United States of America

Yen Press
150 West 30th Street, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10001

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